

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083810

70

ORIGIN NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 IO-03 ADP-00 SSO-00 /015 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA: ARAPHEL

APPROVED BY: NEA: ARAPHEL

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O 031944 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083810

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, DIA WASHDC INFO AMMAN, ATHENS,  
DHAHRA N, JIDDA, JERUSALEM, TEL AVIV AND USCINCEUR FROM BEIRUT  
MAY 03 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5064

ATHENS FOR AMB BUFFUM

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SE

SUBJ: INTERNAL SECURITY - SITREP 5

1. SITUATION HAS BECOME EXTREMELY DANGEROUS IN VIEW OF  
GOL ( DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESIDENCY DIB) WHICH HAS NEWS  
THAT YARMUK BRIGADE, INCLUDING ARMOR, MOVING TOWARD AND  
MAY HAVE CROSSED LEBANESE- SYRIAN BORDER NEAR DAR AL ACHAR.  
THIS REPORT CONFIRMED ALSO BY DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF  
KANAAN.

2. GOL REPORT FOLLOWS ON HEELS OF DRAMATIC SWITCH IN  
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PAGE 02 STATE 083810

TONE BY RADIO DAMASCUS ( FBIS MO31610) IN WHICH PLO  
POLITICAL AND MILITARY DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN DENOUNCE  
GOL ACTIONS OF MAY 3 AS UNJUSTIFIABLE AND " SUSPECT  
ATTEMPTS STRIKE AND LIQUIDATE PALESTINE REVOLUTION".

3. IN LATER AFTERNOON SITUATION AROUND BEIRUT SUDDENLY  
DETERIORATED TO POINT WHERE LEBANESE AIRCRAFT FORCED  
ENTER ACTION FOR FIRST TIME, ROCKETING SABRA CAMP  
AND AREA BETWEEN SABRA CAMP AND AIRPORT WHERE  
FIERCE FIGHTING HAD BROKEN OUT AND FROM WHERE SHOTS BEING  
FIRED AT AIRPORT. SPORADIC FIGHTING ELSEWHERE IN AND  
AROUND CITY BUT NOTHING MAJOR. ARMY AND INTERNAL SECURITY  
FORCES ARE CONCERNED OVER CONTINUING ERUPTION  
OF TROUBLE.

4. GOVERNORS OF NORTH AND SOUTH LEBANON HAVE CONFIRMED THAT  
THEIR AREAS CALM BUT HAVE TOLD US THAT UNLESS SITUATION  
AROUND BEIRUT CAN BE CONTROLLED SOON THINGS MAY DETERIORATE  
ELSEWHERE. THIS VERY LIKELY IF SYRIANS SHOULD  
INTERVENE INDIRECTLY OR DIRECTLY.

5. DIB REQUESTED USG BE VIGILANT AND CONSIDER WHAT USG  
MIGMA DO SHOULD IT BE CONFIRMED THAT FORCES  
FROM SYRIA HAVE CROSSED FRONTIER.

6. AT 1730 Z TONY FRANGIE CALLED TO SAY THAT HIS  
PREVIOUS COMMENTS ABOUT SYRIAN ATTITUDE HAD CHANGED  
AND GOL " WISHED USG ASSISTANCE, THE SOONER THE BETTER".  
HE SAID THAT GOL BELIEVE FORCES FROM SYRIA HAVE  
RPT HAVE CROSSED FRONTIER.

7. COMMENT: WE EXCEPT CONSIDER SOONEST WHAT  
ASSISTANCE WE MAY PROVIDE, DIRECTLY OR  
INDIRECTLY, IN THIS SITUATION WHICH WE HAVE ALL SO  
LONG FEARED.  
HOUGHTON

UNQUOTE ROGERS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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